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PATENT

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Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO §1.97 AND § 1.98

Sir:

The information, patents and/or literature references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, copies of which are enclosed, are being submitted within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114. **Therefore, no fee is due.**

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 14, 2001.

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